
Flower O' the Peach by Perceval Gibbon

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the origin and early history of the revolution are fully described. Besides the information gained during two recent trips of investigation to China, Dr. Brown makes good use of many quotations from Chinese newspapers and from letters of resident missionaries. The analysis of the causes of the revolution is especially good. As might be expected from the author's position as secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, the work of the Christian church is emphasized—possibly unduly in making it the most potent influence in the political regeneration of China. The important part, however, played by the missionaries in the revolution itself is well described. Their compounds have been asylums of refuge for both imperialists and revolutionists; they have aided in arranging terms of truce and capitulation, and have carried on most of the Red Cross work on the battle fields.

G. H. B.

Flower o' the Peach. By PERCEVAL GIBBON. New York: The Century Company, 1911. Pp. 394.

The race problem in the United States has been a favorite theme for novel and drama from the days of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* to the present. This story, however, presents the race problem in South Africa; and is worth reading by anyone who wishes an introduction to the passion, prejudice and hateful injustice engendered there by the conflict of color, language and race.

To do away with the century-long bitterness between Boer and Englishman would be enough of a task for any country. At present the administration of South Africa is finding it almost impossible to reconcile the claims of Dutch and English to absolute equality in the government and the schools. But this antagonism will eventually disappear, just as the French-English antagonism in Canada has largely disappeared. The great race question relates to the native. It is similar in many respects to the negro problem in the United States, but is far more difficult of solution. There is the same insistence, by the whites, upon keeping the native, educated and uneducated alike, in a position of definite inferiority and upon ostracising any white who treats a native with even decent social respect. In some of the Transvaal cities, natives are now put out of the street cars and kicked off from the sidewalks. There, as here in the South, "the negro has no rights which the white man is bound to respect." But in the United States the whites outnumber the negroes, and can easily control them in any resort to physical force. In South

Africa, the natives outnumber the whites, eight or ten to one, and will continue to outnumber them for an indefinite future. They are rapidly advancing in industry, knowledge and power. There are already many native negroes who have returned to South Africa with the best professional training the schools and higher institutions of England can give. The native races are developing leaders, a growing race consciousness, and a resentment at their present status. The problem is—can the whites forever treat the natives as a despised race; can they win in the test of physical strength bound to come in a few decades, if present conditions continue, when the natives will have learned the secrets of western civilization?

G. H. B.